

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 202732 TOSEC 090137  
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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 202732 TOSEC 090137

FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS SUMMARY, AUGUST 24

NO. 12

WIRES

AP -- SCHWEID FROM PEKING

LEAD: "VANCE SAID TODAY HE HAS GAINED SOME GROUND TOWARD NORMALIZING US-CHINESE RELATIONS, BUT CHINA'S CHIEF NEGOTIATOR TENG DID NOT APPEAR TO SHARE THAT APPRAISAL."

OTHER POINTS:

--NO INDICATION FROM US OFFICIALS THAT PRC HAD EASED INSISTENCE THAT US END TIES WITH TAIWAN.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 202732 TOSEC 090137

--VANCE ALSO RAISED ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT US OFFICIALS DECLINED TO GIVE DETAILS.

--OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE VANCE-TENG MEETING GAVE FOLLOWING DETAILS: TENG GAVE SPIRITED LECTURE ON SELF-RELIANCE, HIS RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY DAYS OF COMMUNIST MOVEMENT IN YENAN, AND HIS EXILE AT HANDS OF "GANG OF FOUR."

--VANCE SCHEDULE FOR FINAL DAY REMAINED OPEN; STILL NO AUDIENCE WITH PARTY CHAIRMAN HUA.

UPI -- ANDERSON FROM PEKING

LEAD: "VANCE WEDNESDAY HELD 'NITTY GRITTY' TALKS WITH CHINA'S NEWLY REHABILITATED VICE PREMIER TENG BUT FINAL AGREEMENT ON NORMAL RELATIONS WAS STILL HELD UP BECAUSE OF THE TAIWAN ISSUE."

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OTHER POINTS:

--TALKS RAN AN HOUR OVERTIME AND WENT BETTER THAN EXPECTED, US SPOKESMAN SAID.

--DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID AGREEMENT ON NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WOULD NOT COME DURING VANCE VISIT.

--US OFFICIALS HOPED TENG MEETING WITH VANCE WOULD BE PRELUDE TO VANCE-HUA THURSDAY, AND SAID PRIVATELY SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE INDICATION OF SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF VANCE MISSION.

--NO TALKS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW, BUT US OFFICIALS KEEPING VANCE SCHEDULE OPEN IN CASE LAST-MINUTE MEETING ARRANGED WITH HUA.

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PAGE 03 STATE 202732 TOSEC 090137

REUTERS -- MACKENZIE FROM PEKING

LEAD: "VANCE AND CHINESE DEP. PREMIER TENG BOTH TOASTED THE ROAD TO NORMALIZATION OF SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS TONIGHT AT A DINNER AT THE IMPERIAL SUMMER PALACE."

OTHER POINTS:

--US SPOKESMAN, HOWEVER, CONTINUED TO REFER TO VISIT AS "EXPLORATORY" AND INDICATED NO SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS TOWARD NORMALIZATION.

--DINNER TALK DEALT WITH VANCE AND TENG PASTS AND BANter OF NON-POLITICAL TYPE; MOOD WAS RELAXED AND JOVIAL.

--NO DEFINITE SCHEDULE SET FOR TOMORROW BUT IT IS KNOWN (SIC) THAT VANCE WILL MEET WITH HUA SOMETIME DURING THE DAY.

EVENING TELEVISION

NBC

CHANCELLOR: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE'S MISSION TO CHINA  
CONTINUED TODAY AND THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT THE  
DEGREE OF PROGRESS IN THESE TALKS WAS LIMITED. VANCE MET  
WITH VICE-PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING , THE NUMBER THREE MAN,  
AND SAID LATER THAT HIS CONVERSATIONS HAD BEEN USEFUL AND  
HELPFUL. BUT TENG'S EVALUATION WAS LESS OPTIMISTIC. HIS  
WORDS DID NOT INDICATE ANY PROGRESS AT ALL.

NOT ALL OF SECRETARY VANCE'S TRIP HAS BEEN SPENT AT THE  
NEGOTIATING TABLE.

JACK REYNOLDS - PEKING:  
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PAGE 04 STATE 202732 TOSEC 090137

FOR THE PAST TWO DAYS THE SECRETARY HAS HAD A FAIR AMOUNT  
OF TIME ON HIS HANDS - THE TALKS HAVE BEEN BRIEF. SO,  
THE CHINESE PROVIDED SOME SIGHTSEEING - A TOUR THROUGH  
THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM WHERE HE WAS SHOWN HISTORY AS SEEN  
THROUGH CHINESE EYES, WITH EMPHASIS ON CLASS STRUGGLE AND  
THE EXPLOITATION OF THE MASSES. WHAT SECRETARY VANCE WAS  
NOT SHOWN WAS THE PART OF THE MUSEUM THAT DEALS WITH  
RECENT HISTORY - WITH THE DOWNFALL OF THE "GANG OF FOUR."  
THAT SECTION IS PRESUMABLY BEING REVISED.

THE SECRETARY WAS TREATED TO A DISPLAY OF LION-DANCING  
AND GYMNASTICS. THIS PERFORMANCE PROVIDED ONE OF THE FEW  
REAL INSIGHTS, THUS FAR, ON WHAT'S GOING ON IN CHINA  
THESE DAYS. THERE WERE ALMOST NO POLITICAL OVERTONES IN  
THE PERFORMANCES, AND THERE WERE MORE TRADITIONAL COSTUMES  
WORN BY THE CAST - SOMETHING THAT SURPRISED THE CHINESE  
AUDIENCE AS WELL AS THE AMERICANS - ANOTHER CONCRETE SIGN  
THAT THE NEW CHINESE LEADERSHIP IS MOVING AWAY FROM SOME  
OF THE HARSH POLITICAL STRICTURES OF THE CULTURAL REVO-  
LUTION. TENG'S APPEARANCE IS CERTAINLY THE MOST INTEREST-  
ING DEVELOPMENT ON THE TRIP THUS FAR. NOW IT REMAINS TO  
BE SEEN WHETHER THE AMERICANS AND THE CHINESE CAN AGREE  
ON ANY CONCRETE STEPS, OR EVEN A TENTATIVE TIMETABLE FOR  
NORMALIZATION.

ABC

SMITH: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE, REPRESENTING THE FIRST  
INITIATIVE OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION TO CHINA, HAS NOW  
SPENT THREE FULL DAYS IN PEKING. MUCH OF THAT TIME HAS  
BEEN SPENT LAYING OUT FOR THE CHINESE THE AMERICAN VIEW  
OF THE WORLD. SOME OF THE TIME, WHILE THE CHINESE DIGESTED  
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 05 STATE 202732 TOSEC 090137

WHAT MR. VANCE HAD TO SAY, WAS SPENT BIDING HIS TIME WITH  
VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF CHINESE CULTURE.

JENNINGS - PEKING:

IN THE EVENING, MR. VANCE WAS ADVISED BY HIS CHINA EXPERTS  
THAT THERE WERE MESSAGES IN THE BRILLIANT PERFORMANCE BY  
CHINESE JUGGLERS, ACROBATS AND MAGICIANS. THE WOMEN,  
THEY BELIEVED, WERE ALLOWED MORE SIGNS OF FEMININITY  
THAN DURING THE JUST-ENDED CULTURAL REVOLUTION. THERE  
WAS EVEN A DRESS OR TWO. CERTAINLY, THERE WAS A MINIMUM  
OF REVOLUTIONARY FLAGS, AND AN ALMOST COMPLETE ABSENCE OF  
POLITICAL RHETORIC. CHINA WATCHERS BELIEVED THIS IS  
INTENDED TO INDICATE THAT THE SOCIETY WILL LOOSEN UP AND  
BE LESS DOGMATIC. CHINESE IN THE AUDIENCE ACTUALLY  
GASPED AT ONE POINT TO SEE A CHINESE MAGICIAN DRESSED IN  
THE ANCIENT COSTUME OF A MANDARIN. DURING THE REGIME  
JUST OUSTED HERE, A MANDARIN'S COSTUME WOULD BE WORN ONLY  
BY VILLAINS, USUALLY, POLITICAL ONES.

THIS AFTERNOON, PEKING TIME, A MORE SUBSTANTIAL SESSION  
FOR MR. VANCE, HIS FIRST WITH A LEADING MEMBER OF THE  
CHINESE POLITBORO, THE VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING. THEY  
AGREED THAT THEIR TWO AND A HALF HOUR DISCUSSION HAD BEEN  
USEFUL. MR. VANCE FOUND THEM FRANK. TONIGHT, DURING THE  
TOASTS AT THE BANQUETS, MR. TENG SAID THE CHINESE VIEW  
WAS THAT CHINA AND AMERICA SHOULD MOVE FORWARD TO NORMALIZE  
RELATIONS.

THERE IS NO WAY TO KNOW JUST YET WHY MR. TENG HAS SEEN  
MR. VANCE. THE CHINESE MAY BE PLEASED BY AMERICAN  
PROPOSALS FOR NORMALIZING RELATIONS. CONVERSELY MR.  
TENG, ONE OF CHINA'S MORE BLUNT, OUTSPOKEN LEADERS, MAY  
BE TELLING MR. VANCE THAT CONTINUING US RECOGNITION OF  
TAIWAN IS STILL COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE IN CHINA.

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PAGE 06 STATE 202732 TOSEC 090137

CBS

ANCHORMAN: SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE, CONTINUING HIS  
PEKING TALKS, MET TODAY WITH DEPUTY PREMIER TENG HSIAO-  
PING ABOUT NORMALIZING CHINESE-AMERICAN RELATIONS. VANCE  
CALLED THE TALKS USEFUL AND HELPFUL. A US SPOKESMAN SAID  
THEY WERE BETTER THAN EXPECTED.

KALB: FOR THE FIRST TIME, CHINA'S POWERFUL VICE PREMIER TENG HSIAO-PING STEPPED INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE DID MOST OF THE TALKING DURING A TWO-AND-A-HALF-HOUR SESSION WITH SECRETARY VANCE. AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, TOO, THE TALKS WERE DOMINATED BY THE CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE OF TAIWAN. THE CHINESE SAY THAT THE US MUST BREAK RELATIONS WITH TAIWAN AS THE PRICE FOR RELATIONS WITH PEKING. TONIGHT VANCE WAS TENG'S GUEST AT A BANQUET AT THE CENTURIES-OLD SUMMER PALACE. THE MOOD WAS RELAXED. IT WAS AN EVENING OF ATMOSPHERICS AND CHOP STICKS. EARLIER IN THE DAY,

VANCE MET WITH CHINA'S FOREIGN MINISTER, HUANG HUA, EACH SIDE CLEARLY PROBING TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE IS ANY FLEXIBILITY ON THE PART OF EITHER SIDE. BUT SO FAR, NO HINT OF THAT. THE US HOPE SEEMS TO BE THAT THE CHINESE WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THE US AND CHINA HAVE PARALLEL STRATEGIC INTERESTS--THAT IS, BLOCKING ANY SOVIET EXPANSION--AND THAT TAIWAN SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO BE AN OBSTACLE TO IMPROVING SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. DIPLOMACY TOOK A BREAK LAST NIGHT WHEN VANCE WAS TREATED TO A CULTURAL PERFORMANCE AT THE GREAT HALL OF THE PEOPLE. THE PROGRAM CONSISTED OF VARIETY ACTS, BUT IT WAS MORE THAN SIMPLE ENTERTAINMENT. THE PROGRAM WAS NON-IDEOLOGICAL, IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE HIGHLY POLITICAL PERFORMANCES IN THE DAYS OF CHAIRMAN MAO. THOSE PROGRAMS HAD CONSISTED UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 202732 TOSEC 090137

OF IDEOLOGY SET TO STRIDENT MUSIC. IN A COUNTRY WHERE SYMBOLS ARE IMPORTANT, THIS PROGRAM WAS SEEN AS SYMBOLIZING THE NEW POLICY SHIFT AWAY FROM REVOLUTIONARY ZEAL, WITH THE EMPHASIS ON PRAGMATISM. THE MEETINGS BETWEEN VANCE AND TENG COULD HAVE A CRITICAL IMPACT ON THE TRIANGULAR MANEUVERINGS BY WASHINGTON, PEKING AND MOSCOW. IF THESE MEETINGS ARE PRODUCTIVE, IT COULD GIVE A POSITIVE MOMENTUM TO RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND THE US. BUT IF THERE IS NO PROGRESS, THEN PRESSURES COULD BUILD UP WITHIN THE PEKING LEADERSHIP TO CONSIDER STEPS TOWARD A RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION, WITH THE US AN UNEASY BYSTANDER. CHRISTOPHER

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